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March 3, 2004

MS PCT  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attn: Ms. Christine S. Washington  
Special Processing and Correspondence Branch  
Oniar, Application Processing Division

Re: U.S. Patent Application  
U.S. Application No. 09/914,484  
International Application No. PCT/JP00/01209  
International Application Filing Date: 03/01/2000  
Attorney's Docket No. S004-4374 (PCT)

**REQUEST FOR WITHDRAWAL AND VACATION  
OF NOTIFICATION OF ABANDONMENT**

S I R:

In response to the Notification of Abandonment dated March 1, 2004, kindly find enclosed copies of the following documents:

1. Supplemental Transmittal of Declaration dated December 4, 2001 together with page 1 of signed declaration.
3. Front and rear sides of Check No. 12691 dated November 30, 2001 in the amount \$130.00 evidencing negotiation thereof by the PTO.
2. Return receipt postcard acknowledging receipt of Supplemental Transmittal of Declaration (With Mailing Certificate), Declaration and Power of Attorney and check in the amount \$130.00 and bearing PTO Mail Room date stamp of 10 Jan 2002.

**MAILING CERTIFICATE ON  
LAST PAGE**

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As can be seen from the enclosed documents, applicant filed the required Declaration by mailing certificate dated December 4, 2001 some 16 months before the April 2, 2003 date of mailing of the notification of MISSING REQUIREMENTS (Form PCT/DO/EO/905). The documents further evidence receipt of the Declaration by the PTO on January 10, 2002. Thus the notification of MISSING REQUIREMENTS (Form PCT/DO/EO/905) should not have been issued by the PTO and was mailed in error. Moreover, as applicant duly filed the required Declaration by mailing certificate dated December 4, 2001, applicant has in fact fully responded to the later-issued notification of MISSING REQUIREMENTS (Form PCT/DO/EO/905).

In view of the foregoing, applicant requests that the Notification of Abandonment be withdrawn, that the holding of abandonment be vacated, and that the application be restored to the pending files and processed for issuance of the filing receipt.

Respectfully submitted,

ADAMS & WILKS  
Attorneys for Applicant

By: 

Bruce L. Adams  
Reg. No. 25,386

BLA:db  
Enclosures

MAILING CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS PCT, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

Debra Buonincontri  
Name

Debra Buonincontri  
Signature

March 3, 2004  
Date